AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

1. (Original) A method for tracing an instrumented program on a system during booting, comprising:

    loading object code defining enabling information into a property file associated with a tracing framework;

    rebooting the system after loading the object code;

    processing the property file to enable the tracing framework, wherein enabling the tracing framework comprises creating an anonymous consumer state; and

    tracing the instrumented program using the enabled tracing framework.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

    associating the anonymous consumer state with a consumer.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the anonymous consumer state is converted to a consumer state after the anonymous consumer state is associated with the consumer.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the consumer can access the information obtained during tracing associated with the anonymous consumer state, after the anonymous consumer state is associated with the consumer.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

    loading a kernel into the system, wherein the kernel is configured to load the property file as soon as possible after the kernel is loaded.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

    defining a tracing operation source code; and

    generating the object code using the tracing operation source code.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the enabling information defines a probe to enable and an action to perform when the probe is encountered during tracing of the instrumented program.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the property file is associated with a tracing framework driver.

9. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the property file is processed when the tracing framework driver file is loaded into the system.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein information obtained during tracing associated with the anonymous consumer state is stored in a kernel-level buffer.

11. (Currently amended) An apparatus for tracing an instrumented program on a system during booting, comprising:

   a processor configured to execute a tracing framework, wherein the tracing framework is configured to support an anonymous consumer state and configured to trace the instrumented program using the anonymous consumer state; and

   a memory configured to store a property file, wherein the property file is configured to store an object code defining enabling information to create the anonymous consumer state.

12. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 11, ~~further comprising:~~

   wherein the processor is further configured to execute a consumer, wherein the consumer is configured to claim the anonymous consumer state.

13. (Original) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the anonymous consumer state is converted to a consumer state after the anonymous consumer state is claimed by the consumer.

14. (Original) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein claiming the anonymous consumer state comprises associating the anonymous consumer state with the consumer.

15. (Original) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the consumer can access the information obtained during tracing associated with the anonymous consumer state, after the anonymous consumer state is associated with the consumer.

16. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 11, ~~further comprising:~~
    wherein the processor is further configured to:
    execute a tracing framework driver associated with the property file, wherein the tracing framework driver configured to instantiate the tracing framework; and
    execute a kernel, wherein the kernel is configured to load the tracing framework driver and configured to process the property file to enable to the tracing framework.

17. (Original) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the kernel is configured to load the property file as soon as possible after the kernel is loaded.

18. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the enabling information defines a probe to enable and an action to perform when the probe is encountered during tracing of the instrumented program.

19. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the object code is generated using tracing operation source code.

20. (Currently amended) A network system having a plurality of nodes, wherein each of the plurality of nodes comprises a processor and a memory, comprising:
    a tracing framework configured to support an anonymous consumer state and configured to trace the instrumented program using the anonymous consumer state; and
    a property file configured to store an object code defining enabling information to create the anonymous consumer state,
    wherein the tracing framework resides on any one of the plurality of nodes, and
    wherein the property file resides on any one of the plurality of nodes.

21. (Original) The network system of claim 20, further comprising:

a consumer configured to claim the anonymous consumer state,

wherein the property file resides on any one of the plurality of nodes.

22. (Original) The network system of claim 20, further comprising:

a tracing framework driver associated with the property file configured to instantiate the tracing framework; and

a kernel configured to load the tracing framework driver and configured to process the property file to enable to the tracing framework.

23. (Original) A computer system configured to tracing an instrumented program on a system during booting, comprising:

a first processor;

a memory;

a storage device; and

software instructions stored in the memory for enabling the computer system to:

load object code defining enabling information into a property file associated with a tracing framework;

reboot the system after the object code is loaded;

process the property file to enable the tracing framework, wherein enabling the tracing framework comprises creating an anonymous consumer state; and

trace the instrumented program using the enabled tracing framework.

24. (Original) The computer system of claim 23, further comprising:

software instructions stored in the memory for enabling the computer system to:

associate the anonymous consumer state with a consumer.

25. (Original) The computer system of claim 23, further comprising:

defining a tracing operation source code; and

generating the object code using the tracing operation source code.